DESCRIPTIVE ABSTRACT

The interface consists of a sleeve (1) attached around the user's forearm and a grip element (3) comprising touch-sensitive actuators (12) which press against the tips of the fingers and thumb-actuated control buttons (13). Actuators (6, 7, 11) connect the grip element (3) to the sleeve (1) and allow to move the latter in a noticeable manner in response to impulses from the environment, and the sleeve has a wireless displacement sensor. Hence, in the best embodiments of the invention, the user avails of two very different means both for giving commands (buttons 13 and sensor 14) and for receiving a response from the virtual environment (actuators 6, 7 and 11 and the touch-sensitive actuators 12). This interface is light and easy to use.

It can be used to explore virtual environments for, visiting a location, entertainment, educational purposes, et cetera.

Figure 1.